

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled "ROTATE-TO-ADVANCE CATHETERIZATION SYSTEM", the specification of which is filed herewith, and is identified by Attorney's Docket No. FA-70.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a).

I hereby claim priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(e), of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/156,218, filed 09/27/99 for INTRODUCER WITH ROTARY COUPLING FEATURE, and under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120, of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/448,054, filed 11/23/99 for ROTATE TO ADVANCE CATHETERIZATION SYSTEM.

09671048-092700

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Inventor's signature: James J. Frassica
Inventor's full name: James J. Frassica
Date: 9/27/2000
Residence: 5 Essex Place
Chelmsford, Massachusetts 01824
Post Office Address: Same
Citizenship: U.S.A.

MB/FA70.DEC

09671048-093700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: James J. Frassica
Title: ROTATE-TO-ADVANCE CATHETERIZATION
SYSTEM
Attorney's Docket No.: FA-70

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

VERIFIED STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL BUSINESS ENTITY STATUS

The undersigned, James J. Frassica, hereby declares that he is President of Essex Technology, Inc., a Massachusetts corporation having a principal place of business at 5 Essex Place, Chelmsford, Massachusetts 01824, and is empowered to act on behalf of said corporation in this matter; that said corporation qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 C.F.R. 121.3-18 for purposes of paying reduced fees under Title 35, United States Code, Sections 41(a) and (b), in that the number of employees of said corporation, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons; and that on information and belief, exclusive rights under contract have been conveyed to and remain in said corporation with regard to the invention described and claimed in the above-identified U.S. patent application.

For purposes of this statement, the number of employees of said corporation is the average over the previous fiscal year of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and concerns are affiliates of each other when either directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Title 18, United States Code, Section 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the above-identified application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

9/22/2000
Date

Essex Technology, Inc.

James J. Frassica
James J. Frassica
President